GOVERNEMNT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Industries, Infrastructure, Investment & Commerce Department – Mines & Geology – Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool – Departmental Proceedings under Rule-20 of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991 – Article of Charges – Issued.

INDUSTRIES, INFRASTUCTURE, INVESTMENT & COMMERCE (VIGILANCE) DEPARTMENT

G.O.RT.No. 326 Dated: 28-11-2019
Read :

From the Director General, ACB, AP,Hyderabad. C.No.10/REKUR/2013, Dated 27.02.2016.

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ORDER :

It is proposed to hold an enquiry against Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 20 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Classification, Control and Appeal) Rules, 1991.

2. The substance of the imputations of misconduct or misbehavior in respect of which the inquiry is proposed to be held is set out in the enclosed statement of article of charges and statement of imputations (Annexure-I & II). A list of witnesses by which, and a list of documents by which, the article of charges are proposed to be sustained are also enclosed (Annexure-III to IV).

3. Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool is directed to submit his written statement of defense within 10 days from the date of receipt of this order and also to state whether he desires to be heard in person.

4. Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool is informed that an inquiry will be held only in respect of those articles of charges as are not admitted. He should, therefore, specifically admit or deny each article of charge.

5. Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool is further informed that if he does not submit his written statement of defense on or before the date specified in para 3 above further action will be taken based on the material available.

6. Attention of Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool is invited to Rule 24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964, under which no Government Servant shall bring or attempt to bring any political or outside influence to bear upon any superior authority to further his interest in respect of matters pertaining to his service under the Government. If any representation is received on his behalf from another person in respect of any matter dealt within these proceedings it will be presumed that Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool is aware of such a representation and that it has been made at his instance and action will be taken against him for violation of Rule-24 of the Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

(P.T.O)

7. The receipt of the G.O. may be acknowledged.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

K. RAMGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(MINES)

To
Sri A. Peeraiah, the then Forest Section Officer, Betamcherla, Kurnool (through EFS&T Dept., AP Secretariat).
The EFS&T Department, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi. (with a request to serve & return served copy to III&C(Vigil) Dept.)
Copy to
The Director General, ACB, AP, ,2nd Floor, N.T.R. Admn. Block, PN Bus Station, Vijayawada - 520001
The APVC, 5th Block, AP Secretariat, Velagapudi.
SF/SC.

//FORWARDED:: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER

ANNEXURE-I

STATEMENT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI ALLAM PEERAIAH. FORMERLY FOREST SECTION OFFICER. VELDURTHY, NOW AT FSO, O/O DFO. TTD. TIRUPATHI.

That Sri Allam Peeraiah, joined the Forest Department as Asst. Beat Officer on 29-12-1983 and then he was promoted as Forest Beat Officer on 14-01-2011 and worked as FSO, Bethamcherla Section from 14-01-2011 to 7/2012. While working as FSO, Bethamcherla Section from 14-01-2011 to 7/2012, he committed grave misconduct in as much as that he allowed illegal mining of iron ore during his period of working as FSO, Bethamcherla Section from 14-1-2011 to 07/2012 and he failed to control and he connived with the illegal miners of iron ore resulting in large scale illegal mining of iron ore that reportedly took place in his jurisdiction ie., Bethamcherla Section, Bethamcherla Mandal, Kurnool district. Thereby, he violated Rule 3(1) & (2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, Sri Allam Peeraiah, formerly Forest Section Officer, Veldurthy by his above mentioned acts, has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty, conduct unbecoming of a Government servant and there by contravened Rule 3(1) & (2) of Andhra Pradesh Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

K. RAMGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(MINES)

ANNEXURE-II

STATEMENT OF IMPUTATION OF MISCONDUCT OF MISBEHAVIOUR IN SUPPORT OF ARTICLE OF CHARGE FRAMED AGAINST SRI ALLAM PEERAIAH. FORMERLY FOREST SECTION OFFICER. VELDURTHY. NOW AT FSO, O/O DFO. TTD. TIRUPATHI.

That Sri Allam Peeraiah joined the Forest Department as Asst. Beat Officer on 29-12-1983 and then he was promoted as Forest Beat Officer on 14-01-2011 and worked as FSO, Bethamcherla Section from 14-01-2011 to 7/2012. Sri Allam Peeraiah attaining the age of superannuation on 31-05-2022 and he is here-in-after referred to as Charged Officer/ Member of Service (M.O.S).

Whereas the A.P. Lokayuktha, Hyderabad has forwarded a letter vide Lr.in Dis.No.012/B2/3036/2012, dt. 11.07.2012 to the Government and the Government in turn has addressed a letter vide Lr.No.10592/M. 1 (1)/2012, dt.7.11.2013 to the D.G., Anti-Corruption Bureau, Hyderabad by quoting the reference of letter of Lokayuktha and by enclosing the above intelligence report and petitions for enquiry and report on the alleged involvement of Government Officials in connection with the illegal mining and transportation of Iron ore and loss to the Government Exchequer. During the course of enquiry field inspections were conducted by a team of officers comprising officials of Anti-Corruption Bureau, Mines & Geology and Revenue Department in the village of Veldurthy Mandal and Bethamcherla Mandal on 14.2.2014 and 15.2.2014 respectively from 8 AM to 5 PM and the field inspection discloses that there are illegal mining pits all along the roads in the Government land / Patta land and endowment lands and that number of farmers have resorted to illegal mining of Iron ore in their own patta lands without valid permits from Mines & Geology Department. The enquiry further disclosed that the illegal mining took place in the said mandals and the VROs and villagers of R.S. Rangapuram, Kommuru, Kottala, Muddavaram, Veeraipally, Musalacheruvu, M.Pendekal, Marrikunta, Sitaramapuram, Ramallakota, Pullagummi, Papasanikottala, Kalugutla and Sidhanagattu informed that illegal mining of Iron ore are going on in the fields of jurisdiction villages in which some unknown persons involved in the mining though they are check posts near Gram Panchayat Complex Bethamcherla (v & M), Kolumulapalli Road check post, Balapuram check post near Balapuram village of Bethamcherla Mandal, R.S. Rangapuram check post near railway gate R.S. Rangapuram village, Bethamcherla mandal, Papasanikottala check post, Papasanikottala village, Bethamcherla manual, Dhone check post, near Kotlavaripalli (Old Taluk police station) Dhone (v & m), Ramillakota check post, near Peddamma temple, Ramarlakota village, Veldurthy mandal.

Whereas the MOS while working as FSO, Bethamcherla section from 14.1.2011to July, 2012 is responsible for not tracing out any violations of section under APF Act, 1967 and also to book the offences occurred in Reserve Forests and when he visit thebeat he has to cover the lease areas and inspect the mining areas and submit his remarks if any in the monthly periodical statements and in his tour dairies.

Thus, Sri A. Peeraiah, formerly FSO, Bethamcherla Section, now FSO, O/o DFO, TTD, Tirupathi by his above mentioned acts he committed grave misconduct in as much as he failed to control and he connived with the illegal miners of iron ore resulting in large scale illegal mining of iron ore that reportedly took place in his jurisdiction ie., Bethamcherla Section, Bethamcherla Mandal, Kurnool district. Thereby, he violated Rule 3(1) &(2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

Thus, Sri A. Peeraiah, formerly FSO, Bethamcherla Section, now FSO, O/o DFO, TTD, Tirupathi by his above mentioned acts, has exhibited lack of integrity, devotion to duty and conduct unbecoming of a public servant and thereby, he violated Rule 3(1) & (2) of APCS (Conduct) Rules, 1964.

The Charged Officer/ Members of Service (MOS) has, therefore, rendered himself liable for regular Departmental action for major penalty.

K. RAMGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(MINES)

ANNEXURE-III

LIST OF WITNESSES IN SUPPORT OF CHARGES PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED:-

1. Sri Apathy Ramesh Chowdary, Age 26 years S/o A. Govindu Chowdary, **VRO, R.S. Rangapuram-I** (including hamlet village ie., Kommuru Kottala) R/o H.No. 10-147, Ramakrishnapuram village, Banganapalli Mandal, Kurnool District.
2. Sri Gudipadu Venkata Rao, Age.51 years S/o G.V. Ramana, **VRO, Veeraipalli Village H/o Muddavaram (including hamlet villages namely Musalai Cheruvu and Veeraipally)** Bethamcherla Mandal, Kurnool district R/0 H.No.78/4-19-15 Ne1 Krishna Nagar, Kurnool town and N/o Amakathadu (V), Krishnagiri Mandal, Kurnool district.
3. Sri Meedivemula Maddilety Swamy, Age: 33 years S/o M. Sanjanna, **VRO of M.Pendekallu Village (including hamlet villages namely Marrikunta, Venkatagiri and Vempally)** R/o H.No. 3/168, Muddavaram (V), Bethamcherla (M), Kurnool district.
4. Sri Talari Venkateswarlu, Age.42 years S/o Talari Nadipi Venkateswarlu, **VRO of Seetharamapuram Village,** R/o H.No.10-43, S.Valasala Village, Dhone Mandal, Kurnool district.
5. Sri Kothuru Moulali, Age.43 years S/o K. Nabi Saheb, **VRO of Ramallakota (V),** Veldurthy Mandal, R/o H.No.3-98, Ramallakota (V), Veldurthy (M), Kurnool district.
6. Sri Yelkuri Yellakrishna, Age.38 years S/o Y. Chinna Ramudu, **VRO of Pullagummi (V),** Veldurthy (M) R/o H.No.2-28, Veldurthy (V) & (M), Kurnool district.
7. Sri Gudise Ramagopal, Age:49 years S/o G. Maddilety, **VRO, Kolumula Palle(V) (Including hamlet villages namely Balapalapalli, Papasani Kottala)** Bethamcherla (M), R/o 1-86, Thavisikonda (V), Bethamcherla (M), Kurnool district.
8. Sri Avula Maddaiah, Age.38 years S/o Late A. Sanjanna, **VRO, Kalugotla-ll Village (including hamlet villages namely Krishnapuram and Siddanagattu)** R/o H.No.2- 28, Somayajula Palli (V), Orvakal (M), Kurnool district.
9. The Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool Division, Kurnool.
10. Sri M.V. Krishna Reddy, Inspector, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Kurnool Range, Kurnool.
11. Sri M. Mahaboob Basha, Deputy Supdt. of Police, Anti-Corruption Bureau, Kurnool Range, Kurnool

K. RAMGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(MINES)

ANNEXURE-IV

LIST OF DOCUMENTS IN SUPPORT OF CHARGES PROPOSED TO BE SUSTAINED:-

1) **Lr. Rc.No. 3059/2014-H6 dt. 29-03-2014. of the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool division, Kurnool:** regarding information of transpiration of illegal mining of iron ore involved in Forest Offence violation of Transport rules and its relevant circulars and documents.

2) Lr. Rc.No. 170/2013/H6 dt.16-01-2014 of the Divisional Forest officer, Kurnool: regarding furnishing of information of the service particulars and job chart of Sri A. Peeraiah, forest Section Officer.

3) **Lr. Rc.No. 3059/2014-H6 dt. 27-03-2014, of the Divisional Forest Officer, Kurnool division. Kurnool:** regarding information of 5 iron ore cases relating to Kurnool Range (Forest Division).

4) **Lr. No. 9302/ACB/2013. Dated: 06-06-2015 of the Assistant Director. Mines and Geology, Kurnool:** regarding area of extent of illegal mining and regarding supervisory memos from superior officers.

5) **Lr. No. 9302/ACB/2013, Dated: 08-06-2015 of the Assistant Director, Mines and Geology, Kurnool**: regarding extent of illegal mining of iron ore.

6) Field inspection observation proceedings dt. 14-02-2014 from 8.00 hours to 17.00 hours conducted in the illegal mining prone areas in the fields of Ramallakota village and surrounding village areas of Veldurty Mandal by the officers of ACB, M&G and Revenue departments.

7) Field inspection observation proceedings dt. 15-02-2014 from 8.00 hours to 17.00 hours conducted in the illegal mining prone areas in the fields of R.S. Rangapuram village and surrounding village areas of Bethamcharla Mandal by the officers of ACB, M & G and Revenue departments.

K. RAMGOPAL
SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT(MINES)

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